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A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

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Inglesa, Chiquitos, Breveitos,
and BOUQUETS DE WATSON.

SWEET CAPORAL and OLD JUDGE
CIGARETTES.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
Hongkong, 29th October, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1888.

TELEGRAMS.

THE SEIZURE OF THE STEAM LAUNCH
"STEPHEN THOMPSON".

The following telegraphic message from
Canton reached us this evening:—

"Thompson referred Peking. Consul dis-
senting."

(From the *Straits Times*.)

PARLIAMENT.

London, November 23rd.

Mr. Balfour's Irish Land Purchase Bill was
read a second time by a majority of seventy-
five.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, November 23rd:

The Emperor opening the Reichstag said that
his visits to the different Courts of Europe justify
the hope that peace will be maintained. He
added that no extra military credits are in
contemplation.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We hear that the Blue Funnel steamer *Aga-
memnon* ran ashore somewhere in the Inland
Sea, but got off with slight injury soon after-
wards.

We note that the P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamship
City of Peking will be despatched for San
Francisco via Yokohama and Amoy on Saturday
the 8th inst. at 1 p.m.

MESSRS. ADAMSON, BELL & CO., agents for the
Canadian-Pacific Line, inform us that the steam-
ship *Abyssinia*, from Vancouver, arrived at
Yokohama yesterday, and will leave for Nag-
asaki and Hongkong to-morrow.

As the steamship *Mayflower* was approaching
Singapore on the morning of the 24th ulto., says
the *Straits Times*, between Caruman Island and
Pulau Sarlok, she struck one of the Coral
Reefs in that vicinity. The cargo was imme-
diately trimmed ast., and at 10 o'clock, on the
tide rising, she floated off, and proceeded on her
way to port, arriving at noon. No damage of
any sort was done.

At the last meeting of the Iron and Steel Insti-
tute the Firth of Forth Bridge was declared to
be the latest wonder of the world. It has only
been by the advances made of late in the manu-
facture of iron and steel, said a speaker, that the
construction of such a work has been rendered
possible. The structure is to be 8,296 feet long
—one and five-eighths miles. Two spans measure
7,710 feet each, and allow 150 feet of clear naviga-
tion in 500 feet of the center. The remaining
girders are two 680-feet spans, fifteen 168 feet,
four 57 feet and three 25 feet wide. The founda-
tion is 91 feet below the water-level, and the
height from the bottom is 361 feet.

Says the *Straits Times*:—Yesterday, the 22nd ulto., was a busy day for Lieut. General Cameron
and the Officers of the post, for they were on the
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the Officers a general catechism. Battalion Parade
was held this morning, and a general inspec-
tion of Guards, Hospital, etc. The afternoon
will at the same time take place.

A WISCONSIN man has just married his mother-in-law.

We are informed by the agent of the Austro-
Hungarian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's steamer *Barents*, from Trieste, left
Singapore yesterday for this port.

TO-MORROW morning between 9 and 10.30
o'clock the steam-launch carrying the Bethel
flag will call alongside any vessel hoisting code
pennant C, to convey men ashore to 11 a.m.
service at St. Peter's Seamen's Church, returning
about 12.30.

AN EXCHANGE states that at present six paper
mills (three of which are at Tokio, one at Kioto,
one at Kobe, and one at Osaka) are in operation
in Japan. Beside these, six others are under
promotion. The quantity of paper consigned in
Japan in a year is between 18,000,000 lbs. and
20,000,000 lbs.

HUSBAND (who has advertised for a typewriter
expert)—Did many call to-day, my dear, in
answer to the advertisement? Wife—Yes, quite
a number; but there was only one applicant
whom I told to call again. He seems very bright,
and I'm sure you will like him. Husband—
What was the trouble with the rest? Wife—
They were all young women.

By kind permission of Colonel D. G. Anderson,
the Regimental Band will play in the Public
Gardens, to-morrow (Sunday), from 3.30 till 5 p.m.
The following will be the programme:—

"Merry March" Schubert
"Overture" Verdi Schubert
"V. Laisant" Schubert
"Selection" Rem. of Offenbach Conrad
"Silver Moonlight" Smith
"Serenade" Sullivan
"Maid of Mill" John Norman, Bassmaster.

THE following estimate has been made of the
average yearly produce of wine in the various
wine-producing countries of Europe. The figures
represent hectolitres of 2 gallons each:—France,
45,000,000; Italy, 27,538,000; Spain, 25,000,000;
Austria-Hungary, 14,000,000; Portugal, 4,000,000;
Greece, 2,500,000; Germany, 2,130,000; Southern
Russia, 2,000,000; Switzerland, 1,280,000;
Serbia, 700,000; European Turkey, 600,000;
Roumania, 336,335. Thus the total wine pro-
duced in Europe fairly, may be estimated at
125,084,335 hectolitres, equal to about 2,752
million gallons, which, at six bottles to a gallon,
is 16,512 million bottles, or about four dozen
bottles of wine to each inhabitant of Europe.

DR. TANNER, who became famous about eight
years ago by fasting forty days in New York, has
been pursuing investigations into the subject of
suspended animation, or counterfeit death. He
is convinced that large numbers of people are
annually buried alive all over the world, and that,
so subtle is the principle of life, no one can
undertake to say that it is extinct until decom-
position has set in. The doctor is also pursuing
another branch of semi-suspended animation,
viz. hibernation, and he declares it is possible for
human beings to hibernate. He says he is
studying with a view to making some experiments
in this line, and that the time may come when
he may permit himself to be sealed up in an air-
tight coffin and laid away until such time as he
shall designate for it to be opened.

THE "Arizona Kicker" thus cheerfully holds
the in the *Detroit Free Press*:—We owe no
grudge to Colonel Hastings, because he once
cuffed our ears in the corridor of the Town Hall.
We had proved him a liar, a swindler and an
absconder, and he had to cuff to save his
reputation. The Colonel is now seeking, the
nomination for Sheriff, and is promising, in case
he is elected, to secure our town a Government
appropriation of \$250,000 to build a public
building. We are actuated only by the kindest
motives when we say that the Colonel is a
blooming deceiver. He can no more secure a
dollar from Uncle Sam than we can borrow one
of the hinges from the gates of heaven. All the
influence he has in this world of sin and sorrow
is confined to the Red Hot Saloon and its crew
of reprobates. Do not be deceived in the castor-
oil voice of the Colonel.

THE winter session of the University of Edinburgh
was opened on October 27th with an address by
Principal Sir William Muir in the Synod-hall.
There was a large attendance. The Principal
began by welcoming the students and congratulating
them on their selection of the Marquis of
Lothian as Lord Rector. In regard to the
University itself, they had to notice a certain
diminution in their numbers, especially in the
earlier classes of the Faculty of Arts. The
decrease was not in itself of serious moment,
unless, indeed (which there was at present no
ground for apprehending), it should prove to be
progressive, as they found the experience of the
sister Universities to be more or less the same.
There was probably some general cause at work.
Various hypotheses had been advanced. It had
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None of the reasons yet named, however, could
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refusal to add to the exemplary virtues of the
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tion of Guards, Hospital, etc. The afternoon
will at the same time take place.

MINISTER (consoling Mormon elder over the
death of his wife)—I sympathize with you deeply,
Mr. Brigham, in your sad affliction. Mormon
Elder—Ah, yes, it's hard, it's hard! Minister—
Still, Mr. Brigham, it isn't as bad as if you—
er—only had one, you know.

THE *Singapore Straits Times* learns that the
resignation by Mr. J. C. Mitchell of the Deputy
Registrar of the Supreme Court here has
been accepted by Government, and that the
appointment will most probably be given to one
of the solicitors in practice in Singapore.

"HAS a mistress no right to go into her own
kitchen?" asked the Judge at Woolwich County
Court, the other day; and he is described as
putting the query in a "surprised" tone. His
Honour can know little about cooks if he does
not know that, as a body, they regard "their"
kitchen as territory into which their master or
mistress has no claim whatever to intrude. "Am
I to do the work, or will you? If I am cook,
please go out." Thus spoke the Woolwich cook,
and it was a typical observation.

THE *Straits Times* informs us that what very
nearly proved a serious accident to Lieut. Pro-
theroe happened on the evening of the 3rd Ult.
As the Lieut. was riding along Orchard
Road towards town, a hack ghaty, came in the
opposite direction at a furious rate, and in trying
to pass another ghaty, ran into Mr. Protheroe's
horse, giving him no possible time or room to
escape the collision. Mr. Protheroe and pony
were both thrown violently to the ground, and
the rider very fortunately escaping with only an u-
lly cut on the head.

ONE of the richest magnates in Christendom
the Prince Joseph Schwanberg, died recently
in Austria leaving an estate of 350,000,000 francs
or \$50,000,000. The Prince owned immense
estates in Bohemia, Austria Proper, Styria Fran-
conia and Germany, and as he was possessed
of a penurious spirit it grieved the old nobleman
to hear that his successor would have to pay
6,000,000 guilders as probate tax. Seemingly, as
a reflex of his feelings in resolving to get even
on this import, he left to the poor of Weimar, a
city in which he was born and bred and lived
most of his life, the mere pittance of \$300. This
magnificent (?) bequest was announced to the
Municipal Council of the Austrian capital by the
son and universal legatee of the deceased in a
letter, in which he says that "prompted by the
desire of expressing also his personal sentiments
and his attachment to his native city, he has
given orders to his treasurer to pay over the
amount without any further delay." There is
not always a full need of truth in these old
feudal maxims, *Noblesse Oblige*.

THE British Consul-General at Hamburg in his
last report refers to the position of the North
German Lloyd Line of steamers to the East and
Australia. Mr. Dundas says that although the
company receives a State subsidy of £110,000 a
year, the result of its operations in the direction
of Asia and Australia for the last year, the first
complete year of its existence, has not been a
success in regard to profits. In spite of the
subsidy there was a very large deficit. The
whole building—Theatre, Library, and all—had
to be paid for by the Soudan products which find a market in Europe. Besides ready money, the representatives of
English houses receive cotton goods in consider-
able quantities, which can easily be exchanged
with articles from Timbuctoo. This business is
not merely carried on in Megador, the Jew mer-
chants often travel into the interior to places
where the caravan halts, such, for instance, as
Tuzuni and Tendou. A fight often takes place
between them for the goods, but whoever wins,
or loses in the struggle, the produce, goes into
English hands all the same, and the result for
other nations is unaltered—the whole caravan
loads go to London. If the merchants of other
nations wish to free themselves from the British
yoke, says the Consul, they must make up their
minds to remit advances in ready cash, or,
better still, to send a representative to the spot
who can purchase the goods as they come from
the interior for money down.

MACAO newspapers are again busy with elec-
tioneerings topics. As there is to be a general
election in Portugal for the re-constitution
of the *Cortes* for the three succeeding years,
old priest-ridden Macao has decided, upon
having its share of the work early next year.
Senhor Amaral, the unsuccessful candidate at
the last provisional election, has already advanced
his claim to the parliamentary dignity, and the
Portuguese newspapers published in
the winter session of the University of Edinburgh
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tion of Guards, Hospital, etc. The afternoon
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THE *Jew's Chronicle* contains the biography
of Adolph Beer, commander of the 3d Austrian
Artillery Corps, who died at Laibach this month.
In 1866 Beer gained one of the few Austrian
successes of that campaign by saving the fortress
of Olmütz from falling into the hands of the
Prussians. He was the first Austrian Jew to
attain the rank of colonel. He had been professor
at the military academies of Weissen-
kirchen and Cracow, and died at the age of

It is alleged the boat has been built to suit a certain heavy man in the military team. As far as the International is concerned it would be preposterous to think that the welfare of an English crew should be dependent on this very heavy man. Even the Germans, who have all round as heavy a crew as the English, and who are represented in the club by the modest number of 5 rowers, take their chance in the club's boats, not to speak of the Danes, who to save their lives couldn't speak up more than four rowers.

Is it not then simply ridiculous that the English, who have a much greater number to choose from than any other nationality, should persist in wishing to row in that boat because of the heavy weight of their crew? Might they not get another or some other men whom they believed would exactly suit the club-boats? Certainly, and with greater facility than any other nationality. I could point out a crew—and why not do it while I am at it?—Haylar, Denison, E. Shepherd and F. Shepherd, whom I would defy any other international combination to defeat. Why is a crew something like this, not formed? Well, well—never mind! The German and Danish nationalities are already severely handicapped by their very small number, as they have no choice whatever, but must shove their four men—good or no good—into a boat, and they keenly feel their position. But that is all fair and square so far. Only, when a member of another nationality who is in a much more fortunate position in that respect, in addition to this, also wishes to row in a boat specially designed to suit a special crew, they consider themselves handicapped *too* heavily and therefore prefer not to enter for the conflict.

We are of course glad that "An Old Sportsman" has hitherto held a high opinion of the many qualities of "these Danish and German gentlemen." We beg to return the compliment and to go still further in saying that, not only have we *hitherto*, but we *yet* hold a very high opinion of the manliness, fairness and justness of our British sports-fellows, and we are extremely pleased that we have no reason to regret a mistake in this our opinion, as gentlemen interested in former and in this year's Regatta hailing from Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales have expressed their sympathy with our cause, and hereby conclusively proven that it is not only "these Germans and Danes" who have such ideas of what is sportsmanlike, but that they are shared, to a large extent, by "An Old Sportsman's" own compatriots.

As for precedence we will not dispute that question at all. If it has been done in years gone by there is no reason for taking it up now, and in our opinion the quicker we get away from such unhealthy and unequal practice the better, as it only tends to breed dissatisfaction and bad blood. The question takes quite another aspect when two different clubs compete against each other. Then the question of superior boats take an equal share in the laurels won; but in a club the practice is wrong. In our opinion—and "An Old Sportsman" will no doubt allow, us to have an opinion, although he hints as much that it would be more befitting if we had none, or at least the same as the Committee, who, by the way, do not all hold the same opinion—it is unfair, and we will not row on unfair terms, either one way or the other. It was said at a recent meeting that the English crew had spent money on this boat, and it would be a pity if they should be prevented to use it. All we can say in reply is, that if the question of money is going to be mixed up with sports in this manner we might as well do away with the Regatta altogether.

"Would 'An Old Sportsman' candidly answer a few questions asked in a fair spirit? How is it that the English crew who was so successful last year, should, in addition to their evident greater facilities of forming a suitable crew, still further reduce the chances of other crews coming anywhere near them by adopting a measure which has—to say the least of it—been so generally distasteful to a great number of members of the club? The dissatisfied characterize the use of this boat as unfair and unsportsmanlike, and it is evident that by adopting such irregular measures representatives of other nationalities lose heart entirely, as they see the perfect uselessness under such unequal circumstances for a moment to imagine that they might get anywhere near such a boat. And always excepting the Scotch, of course. And we know their reasons. But we shall not be indiscreet.

A matter that does not, of course, concern us the least, but which, by some strong fact, nevertheless bears on the subject is this: Why has the gentleman who assisted in gaining the victory for the English last year not been invited to take his seat in the boat? Seemingly it is no business of ours, but we have a reason for asking. Again, how would you make the fact that the Committee in its report of last year deplores the want of room in the boat house (as a couple of pair-oared boats are very much needed but cannot be built owing to want of space) correspond with the fact that they have allowed a private boat, the *Mayblossom*, to wit, which no one but the owners can touch, to take up the room of the much-desired boats?

I would have liked to end this already much too long epistle here, but "An Old Sportsman" has, unfortunately, given us a rather broad hint which we cannot pass by unnoticed. "The V.R.C." he says, "is a British institution in a British colony, but it can justly claim to have held out the right hand of good fellowship in relation to the encouragement of manly sport to all nationalities."

"An Old Sportsman" need not have hinted so broadly that we are only members of the V.R.C. by the grace of the British community—plus ten dollars a year. We know and admit that it is only through the universal liberality and courtesy extended to all foreigners by a ruling nationality (whether she be British, German or French) that makes it possible for foreigners in British, German or French possessions to become members of their Clubs. The British community here need not our support in the V.R.C., and we are so well aware of this fact that "An Old Sportsman" might have saved himself the trouble. But we beg to say this much, that if the Britishers have been so kind as to invite us to join their club we have not done so on the condition that our individual opinions in all matters should be the same as theirs, and they cannot very well ask us to alter our ideas of what we consider fair or unfair.

I might, also, in exactly the same way as "An Old Sportsman" candidly speaking, does that particular English crew consider they are advancing the interests of the V.R.C. or promoting the success of the forthcoming Regatta by indulging in untenable persistency in wishing to row in a boat that does not belong to the club, (and that might have a triple expansion engine in her, for all we know) when there is so much disinclination of rowing against her? We think "An Old Sportsman" has been a little too hard on the Irish stroke, Mr. Rochfort. He may not know very much about what "An Old Sportsman" calls "recognition" practice; but he is surely allowed to have his own opinion of what he considers a "fair sport." He is evidently a "Home Ruler" and therefore cannot go in the same harness as the clique alluded to. "Presence" is not always correct or fair. (In conclusion we would only repeat that we do not by any means desire to coerce the Committee into disqualifying the boat in question.) If this crew of that boat consider it a point of honor to be under the command of the Committee, let them do so. This is all that the attention of the Committee has been called to. We do not propose this match shall be the last.

There is any amount of material to chose from and our withdrawal should not count much. The *Mayblossom* may have quite a rollicking time as she will soon become a widow.

I remain, Sir,
Yours truly,
SUDROG.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1888.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

The "Yih Wen Luh" relates the capture of Li Peh-wa and Ho Fei-jung, leaders of a large band of bandits, reported as several thousand strong, who had been lurking in the wild country of Pao-ki Hien, on the borders of Shensi and Szechuen, and the consequent dispersion of the band.

The Hupeh people have a droll synonym for leather-worker: they call a currier, or leather-worker, Kiah-yih T'ang. This is a pun on the shape of the characters "kiah" which looks something like an awl, and "yih," something like a curved knife, both implements used in the trade. "Kiah" and "yih," are both characters from the horary cycle, used in scandalous stories, as we use A and B, when it is expedient to suppress the real names of the actors.

It is said the Yellow River repair works were recommended on 2nd October, and that I Paot-ch'en, Governor of Honan, has appointed Ex-acting Prefect K'wai King-ch'en to an important position in connection therewith. From the previous ability displayed by this energetic and skilful officer, and from the experience and the perseverance of the Director of the Yellow River Works, Wu Ta-ch'eng, hopes are entertained that before very long we may hear that the breach has been closed.

At Sinochow, in a lovely and quiet part of that Great City near the North Wall, a few nights ago the Shao Family's house was entered by burglars and robbed of a quantity of clothes. The strange part of the business was, that the eldest son, ordinarily a bright and lively boy, could not be roused the next morning fr'm an extraordinarily heavy sleep, and no amount of shouting recalled him to consciousness until the day was half gone past. He did not appear out of health, and it is thought that the thieves had used an inordinate quantity of a stupefying drug called *Mauhlang*, which they are accustomed to blow into a room from outside through a blowpipe, introduced through window or door, so as to stupefy the inmates with the fumes, which work like chloroform.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S NEW OPERA.

The following is the plot in detail of Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera "The Yeoman of the Guard," lately produced in London:—

When the curtain rises Phoebe is disclosed seated at her spinning-wheel, a la Marguerite. She sadly sings a song, one verse of which runs thus:

When maiden loves she hopes apart,
As owl mopes on a tree,
Although she keenly feels the smart,
She cannot tell who has her heart,
With its sad ad ah me!

This is a foolish song, ah me!
Born but to drop and die, ah me!
Yet all the sense of eloquence
Lies hidden in a maid's—ah me!

Now enters the assistant torturer of the Tower, who loves her. She looks up and says, "Oh, it's you. You may go away if you like, because I don't want you, you know."

He answers, "Haven't you anything to say to me?" and she retorts, "Oh, yes. Are the birds all caged?" The wild beasts all littered down? All the locks, chains, bolts and bars in good order? Is the little ease sufficiently uncomfortable? Are the racks, pincers and thumb-screws all ready for work? Ugh! You brute!"

He rejoins, "These allusions to my professional duties are in doubtful taste. I didn't become head jailer because I like head-tailling. I didn't become assistant tormentor because I like assistant tormenting."

A conversation ensues, in which he expresses jealousy of her attentions to the prisoner, Colonel Fairfax, who is to be beheaded that evening.

The conversation is interrupted by the entrance of a chorus of yomen, citizens, women and neighbors in the quaint costume of the period, headed by Sergeant Mervil, Phoebe's father. The chorus glorifies the yomen and life in the Tower, and the citizens retire.

A GOSSIP.

The Dame of the Tower, a contralto, next enters and gossips to Phoebe and the Sergeant about the coming execution. She sings a ballad glorifying her own work. The warden chorus it to these words:

The screw may twist and the rock may turn,
And men may bleed and men may burst,
On London town and all its hood,
We keep a solemn watch and ward.

Excuse omnes except Phoebe and her father who develops the fact that Fairfax once saved his life.

The Sergeant's son, who has been long absent and not known to the Tower, is hourly expected.

While the dialogue proceeds, after a song from the father eulogistic of his son, the family is so conscious of the debt of gratitude it owes to Fairfax that it is at last agreed young Leonard Mervil shall conceal himself, while the prisoner shall pass with his heavy beard shaven for the newly arrived son of the Sergeant.

Fairfax is presumed to have escaped and a wisp ends the scene to the refrain—

And shall we let this kiss us
To save the life of such an one?

The son is leaving for his hiding-place when the Lieutenant Custodian of the Tower enters with Fairfax and a guard, en route for the condemned cell. Fairfax hears his doom bravely, and says to the Sergeant:

In this happy little community, Death, when it comes, doth as in a punctual and business-like fashion, and like a courtly gentleman giveth due notice of his advent; that one may not be taken unawares.

Fairfax then breaks into a ballad beginning—

It's like a boon to me when these lines

What kind of a plain boy I who wish in July

I might have had a wife, perchance in June.

He then informs the Tower Commandant that he has a boon to ask. He wants a wife in order to be like his kinman, who will succeed to his titles and estates, provided he dies unmarried.

As he is led away, the Commandant agreed to help provide him a wife, if he can find one willing to become a widow in a few hours. Just then there enter the Merryman and a maid, who are engaged to marry and are pursued by a crowd.

The former talk throughout in quaint language, such as Shakespeare puts into the mouths of his clowns and fools. The sweethearts have a patter and the refrain of which is—

It's like a boon to me when these lines

What kind of a plain boy I who wish in July

I might have had a wife, perchance in June.

A comic scene for the two sweethearts ensues when, like Ko Ko in "The Mikado," Grossmith, the Merryman, consents to give up the lady for a time, as she will soon become a widow.

Phoebe cajoles Fairfax's warden and obtains his key. The marriage takes place immediately, after which the real Fairfax becomes the supposed son of the Sergeant.

The Merryman and the Commandant have jests and a patter song to divert the former's attention. The maid soon re-enters with a ballad beginning—

It's done! I am a bride. Oh hush me,

That beast in thy circle all the gladness that loves her

for and has posting sing!

What brings me thou to me, but gold and sadness?

A bridegroom all unknown, save in this wise,

To-day he dies, to-day, alas! Ah me! Ah me!

Yet wives there would scarce complain,

So that they could in half an hour attain to widowhood.

Then Fairfax is, with a song and a chorus, introduced as the jailor's son. The maid, who has not seen the face of the man she wedded in love with the supposed son. In the midst of the music Phoebe rushes forward to embrace her supposed brother, which puzzles the real Fairfax, personating him. But he, taking the cue, a comic recitative follows, with a trio, in which the torturer takes part and welcomes a brother-in-law who is to be.

This scene is followed by a whimsical one, in which the real Fairfax, as the yeoman's son, has gone after himself, having orders to bring the prisoner into the presence of the headman.

The prisoner comes to meet his doom, The Black, the headman and the tomb!

which is interrupted by the entrance of Fairfax as the son, and some yemen, who announce:

We've hunted high, we've hunted low;

The man we sought, as truth will show,

The man we sought with anxious care,

Has vanished like empty air.

The act ends with a frenzied ensemble, in which the commandant bewails his negligence, the maid her ill luck in still being a wife and being unable to marry the counterfeit son, and Merryman his loss of his sweetheart, who faints in her real husband's arms, while all the other characters rush off to hunt for the fugitive, leaving the husband and wife and the gaunt headman in possession of the stage.

Two days elapse and the second act opens with a chorus of women, warden and yemen. The contralto dame announces that the search for Fairfax has been unsuccessful, and we come to a comic dialogue between the torturer and the Merryman who jeer each other—one for having lost his captive and the other his wife.

A patter song in Gilbert's best vein now occurs, beginning:

Oh, a private buffoon is a light-hearted loon,

And running to five long verses in fetching double rhymes. Then Fairfax (alias the son) and the maid have the stage alone for a duet and a solo, the opening verses of which run thus:

Bound to an unknown bride for good and ill,

Ah! I am not so tied a prisoner still!

He is soon joined by Mervil, his supposed father, and the contralto dame, who is trying to marry the widowed sergeant. In the course of conversation Fairfax infers from the dame's account of the maid's mutterings in her sleep that the latter is his unknown bride, and he exults in song. Meanwhile, to absolve himself, the warden lover pretends to have just shot Fairfax as he was swimming across the Thames. All in the secret fear that the real son has been killed and everybody drags the river. At this juncture a maliciously delayed pardon for Fairfax arrives.

He and the son enter in their true characters and all is joy, except to the Merryman, who has lost his wife; to the sergeant, who has had to marry the hated dame, and to Phoebe and the torturer, who have also wedded and who feel marriage to be indeed a failure.

THE FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held in the HONGKONG HOTEL, on FRIDAY the 21st instant, at 11 O'CLOCK FORENOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, and Statement of Accounts to the 30th November, 1888, and of declaring Dividends.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSSED from the 8th to the 21st instant, both days inclusive.

MACEWEN, FRICKEL & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1888.

To-day's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

THE AMERICAN MUSICAL COMEDY AND OPERA COMPANY.

DIRECTORS:—Mr. P. W. WILLARD, JOHN F. SHERIDAN.

THIS EVENING, the 1st December, 1888.

JOHN F. SHERIDAN'S Great Farce-Comedy, Entitled, "N. A. P." in a PULLMAN PALLACE CAR.

Cast of Characters.

Nap (a Crushed Comedian).....Mr. J. F. SHERIDAN.

Lord Lovel (travelling for his health).....Henry Irving Brown (a Tragedian).....PHIL RAY.

Professor Boodle (Lord Lovel's companion).....A. SUTCH.

Timothy Mudd (of Mudd Spring).....CHARLES FISHER.

Ferdy Vanderbill (a Young Blood).....H. M. IMANO.

Harry Jerome (His Friend).....W. CRIPPS.

George Astor ("Sagdad").....G. CLEVLAND.

James McNab (a Bailiff).....G. HARRISON.

Peter Neverlate (a Postman).....W. HASAN.

Jocko (an Ape).....Miss E. LEAMINGTON.

Wira Mudd (a Talkative Lady).....MAUDE HARE.

